

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 314138 TOSEC 340155
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TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 314138 TOSEC 340155

FOR THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PPDC

SUBJECT: PERSONAL MESSAGE TO KING KHALID FROM PRESIDENT
FORD

1. PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT FORD
TO KING KHALID EARLIEST APPROPRIATE OPPORTUNITY.

2. QUOTE: YOUR MAJESTY: I WISH TO EXPRESS TO YOU
DIRECTLY MY PERSONAL ADMIRATION FOR SAUDI ARABIA'S DEMON-
STRATION OF RESPONSIBLE LEADERSHIP AT THE OPEC MINISTERIAL
CONFERENCE IN DOHA. WHILE I CONTINUE TO FEAR THAT EVEN
A MODEST INCREASE MAY LEAD TO UNFORTUNATE SETBACKS AMONG
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PAGE 02 STATE 314138 TOSEC 340155

DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING ECONOMIES, YOUR OWN EXAMPLE
OF RESTRAINT WAS MOST COMMENDABLE AND, I AM SURE, VERY
DIFFICULT UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES.

I REGRET THAT MOST OF THE OTHER OPEC NATIONS WERE NOT
MOTIVATED BY THE SAME SENSE OF SHARED CONCERN FOR THE

HEALTH OF THE WORLD ECONOMY UPON WHICH WE ALL DEPEND. HOWEVER, YOUR MAJESTY'S DETERMINATION TO STAND FIRMLY AGAINST THE MANY PRESSURES FOR A LARGER PRICE RISE AND TO INCREASE YOUR COUNTRY'S OIL PRODUCTION HAS MADE AN

IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE CAUSE OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION WHICH IS AN IMPORTANT GOAL FOR BOTH OUR NATIONS. IT HAS ALSO MODERATED SIGNIFICANTLY WHAT COULD OTHERWISE HAVE BEEN A DANGEROUS BLOW TO THE WORLD ECONOMY AT A PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT TIME.

I KNOW THAT MY FEELINGS ARE SHARED BY COUNTLESS AMERICANS AND OTHERS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD WHO SEE IN YOUR DECISION A FURTHER EXAMPLE OF THE RESPONSIBLE APPROACH TO WORLD PROBLEMS WHICH HAS BEEN A CHARACTERISTIC OF SAUDI ARABIAN FOREIGN POLICY AND WHICH HAS SO ABLY AND CONSCIENTIOUSLY BEEN MAINTAINED UNDER YOUR LEADERSHIP. I AM CONFIDENT THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL, FOR ITS PART, CONTINUE TO WORK CLOSELY WITH YOUR MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT FOR THE SOLUTION OF GLOBAL ECONOMIC PROBLEMS WITHIN A FRAMEWORK OF COOPERATION BETWEEN DEVELOPED, OIL-PRODUCING AND DEVELOPING NATIONS. THE UNITED STATES WILL ALSO CONTINUE TO WORK WITH SAUDI ARABIA AS IT PURSUES ITS EFFORTS TO BRING ABOUT FURTHER PROGRESS IN THIS COMING YEAR TOWARD OUR SHARED OBJECTIVE OF A JUST AND LASTING PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

IN CLOSING, I WISH TO REAFFIRM MY APPRECIATION FOR YOUR MAJESTY'S WISE LEADERSHIP AND FOR THE CONTRIBUTIONS WHICH YOU AND YOUR MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT HAVE MADE TO THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 STATE 314138 TOSEC 340155

ENHANCEMENT OF RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES--A RELATIONSHIP OF SUCH IMMENSE IMPORTANCE TO REGIONAL AND WORLD PEACE AND STABILITY. MAY YOUR MAJESTY CONTINUE TO ENJOY THE FULLEST BLESSINGS OF HEALTH, HAPPINESS AND PROSPERITY IN THE FUTURE. WITH WARM GOOD WISHES, GERALD R. FORD.

HIS MAJESTY
KING KHALID BIN ABDUL AZIZ AL SAUD
KING OF SAUDI ARABIA
JIDDA

END QUOTE.
ROBINSON

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NNN

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